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### **Letter from the Congresswoman**

Dear Friend,

It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve as your representative in Congress. During these past six months, I have had the pleasure of traveling throughout the district to meet many of you and learn about the issues you care about, the issues you want me to fight for in Washington.

As you know, these are challenging times in the nation's capital. Partisan gridlock has temporarily shut down the government and led to the longer-term paralysis of the legislative process. Clearly, this is not Congress' finest hour.

Nonetheless, I believe that we will ultimately overcome these challenges and move our country closer toward providing better opportunities for every American. And I am committed to doing my part to help ensure that my constituents have access to those opportunities.

To that end, I am hosting the first Second Congressional District Job Fair on Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at South Suburban College in South Holland. The job fair will give my constituents the chance to meet face-to-face with employers who are looking to fill jobs now, putting them one step closer to getting the jobs they need to support their families as well as our local economy. You can learn more about the job fair in the newsletter.

You can also learn about the Gun Violence Day I held where I brought Chicago families to Washington to advocate for common sense gun legislation, my office's donation of books and computers to local schools and

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the legislation I recently introduced to combat gun violence and spur economic development in the district.

If you have ideas on legislation, programs or initiatives that you believe will help improve our district, please let me know. I'm always open to hearing your opinions and concerns.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve. I look forward to continuing the conversation with you on how we can work together to make the Second District an even better place to live and work.

Sincerely,



Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress

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### District Work Period



*Congresswoman Kelly sits down to talk about issues affecting the district*



*Congresswoman Kelly speaks at the first Affordable Care Act information town hall*

### [and Resource Guide](#)

#### [Sponsored Legislation](#)

1. **H.R. 2464:** Will help reduce household gun violence by adding firearms to the Consumer Product Safety Commissions definition of “consumer product.” As a result, guns will be subject to the same safety standards as other potentially hazardous household items.

2. **H.R. 2465:** Requires the Surgeon General of the U.S. to submit to Congress an annual report on the effects of gun violence on public health. This will provide lawmakers with the data needed to make informed decisions that will help make our communities safer from gun violence.

3. **H.R. 2648:** Prohibits the sale or transfer of guns to “high risk” individuals such as those convicted of domestic violence.

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## Second Congressional Job Fair



Are you or someone you know looking for work?

Unemployment is a serious problem in our community, and that's why this Friday October 4th, I'll be hosting my first ever Second Congressional District Job Fair at South Suburban College in South Holland, Illinois.

There will be employers from a wide variety of industries, including banking, healthcare, retail, government and transportation. The fair is an excellent way for job-seekers to learn about job opportunities in the area and to meet face-to-face with potential employers.

If you have a relative, neighbor or friend who's unemployed, under-employed, or seeking a career change, they'll want to attend.

I'll see you at The Atrium of South Suburban College in South Holland on Friday October 4th from 10AM to 2PM.

<http://reprobinkellyjobfair.eventbright.com/>

4. **H.R. 3142:** Will train the next generation of Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) professionals by allowing the US Secretary of Education to award scholarships on a competitive basis to students who complete bachelor's degrees in STEM areas and who commit to teaching STEM education in schools for a period of five years.

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### Co-Sponsored Legislation

1. **H.R. 32:** Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act- Repeals certain provisions which require the offset of amounts paid in dependency and indemnity compensation from Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) annuities for the surviving spouses of former military personnel.

2. **H.R. 377:** Paycheck Fairness Act- Amends the portion of the Fair Labor Standards Act

of 1938 (FLSA) known as the Equal Pay Act to revise remedies for, enforcement of, and exceptions to prohibitions against sex discrimination in the payment of wages.

3. **H.R. 938:** United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of

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## Gun Violence Day Event

On September 18th, I hosted a Gun Violence Day in Washington, DC. Families of gun violence victims from the 2nd District came to Congress to discuss their desire for common sense gun reform. These families were joined by members of the Newtown Action Alliance in demanding action to halt the ongoing gun violence wreaking havoc on our communities.

They courageously shared their stories with lawmakers and the media, asking public officials to pass legislation that would make our communities safer and protect our children. This event was an example of how standing together amplifies our voices and binds us together in a common mission, regardless of zip code. We still have a ways to go, but I believe that Gun Violence Day and events like it help us make progress in putting an end to gun violence.



Click on the above image to watch the press conference from the gun Violence Day Press Conference.

To learn more about the gun violence legislation I have introduced, [click here](#).

2013- Declares that Israel is a major strategic partner of the United States.

4. **H.R. 1330:** Student Loan Fairness Act- Amends title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA) to allow borrowers of Federal Family Education Loans (FFELs) and Direct Loans (DLs) to limit their monthly payment on such loans to one-twelfth of 10% of the amount by which their adjusted gross income and that of their spouse (if applicable) exceeds 150% of the federal poverty level and caps the interest rate on those Direct Consolidation Loans at 3.4%.

5. **H.R. 2881:** American Jobs Act of 2013- Increases the amount of loan forgiveness available under the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) and Direct Loan (DL) programs to highly qualified teachers who have been employed at a low income school in the same local educational agency (LEA) for five consecutive years.

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## Library of Congress Surplus Book Program and Computer Donation



As your representative in Congress, I believe in helping to connect people to the resources they need. That is why I have supported the Library of Congress Surplus Book Program. The Library of Congress allows representatives to donate excess books to educational institutions. My office served as the conduit for these books, helping to distribute over 350 books to schools in the Second District. It's a great joy to help children access new books and get engaged in reading. If your school is interested in participating in the program, please fill out the [application](#), submit it to my office, and we will send you books once they become available. In addition to donating books, I have also worked with a local company, PC Rebuilders & Recyclers, to donate refurbished computers to two schools in the Second District. In today's digital world, computers are an essential tool in preparing students for a 21st century economy. Five computers each were donated to Strassburg Elementary School in Sauk Village and Brooks Elementary in Harvey. I will continue to work to increase access to technology for all of my constituents.

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### News You Can Use:

#### **The Affordable Care Act (Obamacare)**

I wanted to give you an update on the enrollment period

### Office Contacts:

Scheduling:

[Tony Presta](#)

Constituent Services:

[Cynthia Dewitt](#)

Grants:

for healthcare coverage under the Affordable Care Act. Enrollment began Tuesday October 1 and will remain open until March 31, 2014.

The Health Insurance Marketplace – a signature provision of the Affordable Care Act – will serve as an online resource where you'll be able to explore your options for quality health coverage. The Health Insurance Marketplace can help if you don't have coverage now or if you have it but want to look at other options. With one Marketplace application, you can learn if you can get lower costs based on your income, compare your coverage options side-by-side, and enroll.

Through the Marketplace you will be able to compare prices, coverage, and get details on available health insurance policies based on your insurance needs, income level, and household size. It will also help you determine whether or not you qualify for lower premiums, lower out-of-pocket costs, or if your family is eligible for Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

The available insurance plans are sold by private insurance companies. No plan will be able to deny you coverage or charge you more due to a preexisting condition. Many preventative care services will also be covered free of charge to any policy holder. Coverage is set to begin on January 1, 2014.

The Marketplace's website is designed to help you find the coverage you need. You can chat with a representative online; find toll-free phone numbers to talk to a representative, or find a list of locations near you to talk to a trained representative in person. Please visit <http://getcoveredillinois.gov/> for additional information or call 1-800-318-2596 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to speak with a representative.

For FAQ's and more information, visit my Affordable Care Act Toolkit: <http://robinkelly.house.gov/ACA-toolkit>.

[Mimi Mesiro](#)

Outreach:

[Dante Sawyer](#)

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